decided to handover the passenger and ramp handling to British Airways who have adequate counter space and staff at Heathrow to handle the flights of Air-India with effect from 10.11.88.

As result of this decision, the work force of Air-India had to be reduced. 40 Air India employees and 6 European airhostesses based at London have volunteered for being declared redundant; compulsory redundancy is being effected in the case of 38 employees, thus making a total of 94 employees whose services will be dispensed with.

Fleet of AIR India

3247. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 680 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th November, 1988 and state:

(a) what is the workforce employed by Air India for its fleet and in what manner it compares with other international carriers, in terms of manpower and labour productivity, stating the percentage of the workforce considered to be surplus;

(b) what is the annual expenditure incurred on the surplus workforce; and

(c) in what manner the surplus workforce is gainfully utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) The workforce employed by Air India for its fleet size (24 ACFT) is more than other International Airlines because unlike other carriers, Air India does not give certain jobs on contract to outside parties, nor does it have subsidiaries for maintenance or ground handling. Air India's workforce also includes staff for security arrangements, Civil works and properties, transport for staff/crew, canteen facilities etc.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Members of the Executive Councils of Universities

3248. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of persons, alongwith their qualifications and designations, who have been nominated as members of the Executive Council of the Delhi University, Aligarh Muslim University, and Jawahar Lal Nehru University; during the last five years; and

(b) what is the number of persons who have been in the service of these universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance to Chukha Hydel Project

@3249. SHRI BAIKUNTHNATH SAHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided assistance for the Chukha hydel project in Bhutan;

(b) if so, the extent thereof; and

(c) whether Government have a proposal to buy power from that country; and if so, what are the details of the agreement signed between India and Bhutan for the purpose?

@Previously Unstarred Question 2861, transferred from the 5th December, 1988.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project, which is to cost Rs. 243.71 crores, is being fully financed by Government in a 60:40 grant-cum-loan ratio.

(c) Power is already being bought from Bhutan on an ad-hoc basis. An agreement for long-term purchase is to be finalised.

Quality check on Edibles sold at Railway Stations

3250. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the mechanism to check the quality of edibles sold at railway stations by the vendors and the number of raids conducted by the Railway authorities to check the quality of edibles during the last three years; and

(b) what are the details of action taken by the Railway authorities against those vendors who have been found selling substandard, impure or adulterated foodstuffs and edibles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Inspections are conducted by officials of Commercial and Medical Departments to check the quality of food and service. During 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88, 50,655 inspections were conducted by Commercial Officers and 30,667 food samples were drawn by the Medical Department for testing.

(b) Action taken include warning, fine, termination of contracts, departmental action against staff and prosecution under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

Complaints regarding poor service in railway refreshment rooms

3251. DR MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of complaints received regarding poor service and inferior quality of foods, tea and snacks of pantry car and railway refreshment rooms during the last three years, zone-wise; and

(b) what are the details of action taken by the Railway authorities in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The total number of complaints received during the last three years regarding poor quality of food served at stations and on trains is given in the attached statement (*See below*). Separate figures for refreshment rooms are, however, not available.

(b) Complaints are investigated and based on the results of investigations action is taken against the contractor, staff responsible. Action taken includes warnings, fines, termination of contract and disciplinary action against staff.

Statement

Railway	Number of complaints received during the last three years 85-86 86-87 and 87-88
Central	754
Northern	345
North Eastern	27
Northeast Frontiers	53
Southern	189
South Central	101
South Estern	663
Eastern	146
Western	743

Trains reaching late/in time

3252. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAIL-